

shall be assigned to such business of the Committee as the Chairman considers advisable.

Rule 9. Supervision, Duties of Staff.

(a) Committee staff members are subject to the provisions of clause 9(b) of Rule X.

(b) Supervision of Majority Staff. The professional and clerical staff of the Committee not assigned to the minority shall be under the supervision and direction of the Chairman, who shall establish and assign the duties and responsibilities of such staff members and delegate such authority as he determines appropriate.

(c) Supervision of Minority Staff. The professional and clerical staff assigned to the minority shall be under the supervision and direction of the Ranking Minority Member, who shall establish and assign the duties and responsibilities of such staff members and delegate such authority as he determines appropriate.

Rule 10. Committee Expenditures. Copies of each monthly report (prepared by the Chairman of the Committee on House Administration and showing expenditures made during the reporting period and cumulative for the year by the Committee), anticipated expenditures for the projected Committee program, and detailed information on travel, shall be available to each member.

Rule 11. Broadcasting of Committee Hearings. Any meeting or hearing that is open to the public may be covered in whole or in part by radio or television or still photography, subject to the requirements of clause 4 of Rule XI of the Rules of the House. The coverage of any hearing or other proceeding of the Committee by television, radio, or still photography shall be under the direct supervision of the Chairman and may be terminated in accordance with the Rules of the House.

Rule 12. Subpoenas. The Committee may authorize and issue a subpoena under clause 2(m) of Rule XI of the House.

Rule 13. Travel of Members and Staff.

(a) Approval of Travel. Consistent with the primary expense resolution and such additional expense resolutions as may have been approved, travel to be reimbursed from funds set aside for the Committee for any member or any staff member shall be paid only upon the prior authorization of the Chairman. Travel may be authorized by the Chairman for any member and any staff member in connection with the attendance of hearings conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee thereof and meetings, conferences, and investigations which involve activities or subject matter under the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is given there shall be submitted to the Chairman, in writing, the following: (1) the purpose of the travel; (2) the dates during which the travel is to be made and the date or dates of the event for which the travel is being made; (3) the location of the event for which the travel is to be made; and (4) the names of members and staff seeking authorization.

(b) Approval of Travel by Minority Members and Staff. In the case of travel by minority party members and minority party professional staff for the purpose set out in paragraph (a), the prior approval, not only of the Chairman but also of the Ranking Minority Member, shall be required. Such prior authorization shall be given by the Chairman only upon the representation by the Ranking Minority Member, in writing, setting forth those items enumerated in (1), (2), (3), and (4) of paragraph (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BURTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BURTON of Indiana addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REPUBLICAN TAX CUTS REDUCE THE TAX BURDEN ON AMERICANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is the day that Americans are required to pay their taxes. It is the last possible day in this year that they can do that. We call it "tax day." It is normally on April 15th, but because of the calendar and because today is a holiday in the District of Columbia, it has been delayed.

I want to say something about the fact that our taxes are something that people feel obliged to pay the Federal Government and to State and local governments too, but many people do it grudgingly. We do it grudgingly because we feel concern about the way too many of our tax dollars are being spent. However, this year, taxpayers are paying less than they have paid before as a result of the tax cuts that have occurred in 2001 and 2003, tax cuts that were pushed through under a Republican Congress and asked for by a Republican President.

Children often ask me when I speak to them in school groups, what is the difference between Democrats and Republicans? I tell them that the most simple definition that I can give them is that Republicans believe that Americans should keep more of their money than Democrats do and that Democrats believe that very often the government is the answer to the problems that we have in this country, while Republicans think that individual Americans have the capability for solving most of their problems. So Republicans believe that the government that governs least governs best, and that is the philosophy that I have.

The tax cuts that were instituted in 2001 and 2003 were designed for Americans to keep more of their money than the government had been taking from them, and those tax cuts have been very effective. We see that our economy is doing extremely well as a result of those tax cuts. We have the lowest unemployment rate in this country in many, many years, the highest homeownership rate, the highest level of income in many, many years; and just on and on and on the economic indicators

go that are very, very positive in this country. Those are as a result of the tax cuts.

Democrats will talk about "investing in government." Well, we don't invest in government when we give money to the government to spend. Our investments come from individual Americans who are entrepreneurs who create new jobs and create new businesses. That is where investments come from, and that is where a good return on investments come from.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nebraska.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express some thoughts and concerns about taxation. Certainly, as taxes are due today, I know that post offices around the country are well staffed, up to midnight. It is interesting as I have paid my taxes in the past, kind of pushing it up to the last minute, to see everyone else who pushes up the payment of their taxes to the last minute. But the fact is, it does take place.

But I rise today to very briefly reflect on what today means. Certainly I realize that paying taxes is a necessary function of a civilization, but I also rise to express my concern that some tax policies that have been working over the past few years are in jeopardy. The tax relief packages offered by President Bush and certainly those in the House and Senate who supported tax relief have done good things, in fact, great things, in terms of revenues to the Federal Government, but I would say so in terms of revenues to the household budget even more importantly.

We in Congress cannot utilize what we call "dynamic scoring," the reflection of what lower taxes can do in terms of tax revenue. I understand that. I think it is unfortunate. Be that as it may, we are faced with some tough decisions, decisions impacting the budget long term, and I wish to speak of my concern for the long term.

I have learned over the years that government spending compounds once a new program is started. We have to be very mindful of that. We have to be mindful that as we look down the road, we have to come up with ways to cover the expenses of new programs. That is why I believe we should be careful when we talk about adopting new programs.

When it comes to the tax burden in general, certainly April 15th, and now the 16th, speaks volumes not only in the 3½ months it takes to prepare taxes owed from the prior year, but we often hear about "tax freedom day." Preliminary research tells us most recently this year's tax freedom day is actually April 30. It takes a full 4 months, on average, for Americans to earn enough money in their household to pay their Federal income tax.

Now, throw on top of the Federal income tax State income tax, and in a State like my State of Nebraska, property tax, it is a heavy burden in Nebraska, and sales tax, plus the other